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1. On 29 July the North Koreans and Chinese Communists were arguing about placing the subject of a political conference on the P'anmunjom agenda. The North Koreans wish a political conference on Korea to be held at Kaesong after the P'anmunjom talks are concluded, and therefore want this item on the P'anmunjom agenda.
2. The Chinese Communists are also eager to have a subsequent conference to settle differences on Korea, but they feel that arrangements for the conference should follow the armistice agreement and see no reason to insist that a discussion on this point be included in the P'anmunjom talks. Furthermore, the Chinese Communists want the conference to be held outside Korea, preferably in China. On 29 July Chinese delegate HSIEH Fang (6200/2455) was exerting pressure on the North Korean delegation to agree to a Soviet-Chinese Communist plan to settle the P'anmunjom questions first, then to present a solid front for a political conference.

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Comment. The prisoner-of-war issue will be resolved, and an armistice will be concluded. The North Korean delegation at P'anmunjom feels that the combined Chinese Communist-North Korean tactics have had an adverse effect on the United States delegation. For this reason, and because the North Koreans are worried by the repeated United Nations air strikes on industrial targets, the North Koreans may become more conciliatory in their attitude at the Conference.

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[redacted] Comment. Although it is possible [redacted] it is doubtful
[redacted] that the North Korean delegation has the power to make these decisions.

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